

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOE MCKENNEY**, on January 4, 2001 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Joe McKenney, Chairman (R)
Rep. Rod Bitney, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Gary Matthews, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Sylvia Bookout-Reinicke (R)
Rep. Roy Brown (R)
Rep. Nancy Fritz (D)
Rep. Kathleen Galvin-Halcro (D)
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)
Rep. Carol C. Juneau (D)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Rick Laible (R)
Rep. Bob Lawson (R)
Rep. John Musgrove (D)
Rep. William Price (R)
Rep. Allen Rome (R)
Rep. Donald Steinbeisser (R)
Rep. Brett Tramelli (D)
Rep. James Whitaker (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Dave Gallik (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Gordon Higgins, Legislative Branch,
Jane Nofsinger, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:
Organizational Meeting, 1/4/2001

NO TAPE Available

CHAIRMAN JOE MCKENNEY, HD49, Great Falls, called the meeting to order, welcomed the committee and asked members to introduce themselves.

REP. ROD BITNEY, HD77, Kalispell, said he was a real estate broker and builder. He had been a pilot in the service and still flew as a private pilot. He is in his third term and this is his third time on this committee.

REP. GARY MATTHEWS, HD64, Miles City, stated he owned a bar and restaurant for 20 years which he sold in 1998.

REP. NANCY FRITZ-ROSE, HD69, Missoula, said she was replacing Carol Williams, was a retired Spanish teacher, worked in real estate and was a union leader for teachers.

REP. ROY BROWN, HD14, Billings, told the committee he had sold his oil business and now had rental real estate. This is his second term.

REP. SYLVIA BOOKOUT-REINICKE, HD71, Alberton, stated she is a retired outside sales person and that she had sold packing goods for processing equipment throughout the Northwest.

REP. JIM KEANE, HD36, Butte, stated he is a first term legislator and has been in construction, mining, labor and has owned his own business. He is also a private pilot.

REP. BILL PRICE, HD94, Lewistown, said he is an independent insurance agent and has just sold his business. This is his first term.

REP. BRETT TRAMMELLI, HD46, Great Falls, has worked for a refinery, the railroad, the school district, and hopes to be an advocate for working people.

REP. RICK LAIBLE, HD59, Victor, told the committee he is a freshman, owns an out-of-state manufacturing business, some rental property and raises Egyptian and Arabian horses.

REP. KATHLEEN GALVIN-HALCRO, HD48, Great Falls, said her family had been representing her district for 30 years. She is a teacher, union leader and organizer.

REP. DON STEINBEISSER, HD100, Sidney, stated he is a farmer and rancher.

REP. BOB LAWSON, HD80, Whitefish, said he is in his third session and was in education as a teacher and guidance counselor for 28 years and is now retired.

REP. JIM WHITAKER, HD 41, Great Falls, said he is a freshman who worked for Northern School Supply for 28 years and Josten's Class Rings for 2 years and is now retired.

REP. CAROL JUNEAU, HD85, Browning, said she represents a great deal of the Blackfoot Nation and is in her second term.

REP. ALLEN ROME, HD 56, Garrison, noted he has been in business most of his life starting at age 11. He now owns an Ace Hardware Store and feels small business really needs some help.

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, HD 18, Billings, is representing Bruce Simon's district, former chairman of the committee. He was born in Pennsylvania on a dairy farm and has lived in Billings for 20

years. He has owned a cleaning business there and now owns a small brewery and some rental property.

REP. JOHN MUSGROVE, HD 91, Havre, was born on a ranch in White Sulphur Springs and has been associated with the teachers' union but retired in 1998.

CHAIRMAN MCKENNEY told the committee he was from Great Falls and has been a business owner since he was 13 as a paperboy on the East Coast. He was in the Navy and owned a video game business in Great Falls which he sold two years ago. He plans to open a Sports Bar later this year.

CHAIRMAN MCKENNEY said the committee will meet every Monday from 8:00 A.M.-Noon. He suggested members be present by 7:45A.M. so that presenters might visit with members prior to the meeting. He told the committee there are 19 members to the committee, 11 of which are freshmen this term, and one sophomore who is new to the committee.

CHAIRMAN MCKENNEY asked the members to be on time, raise their hand to be recognized by the chair, limit side conversation, respect all witnesses, lobbyists and sponsors. He then outlined the format of the hearings. **REP. BITNEY** or **REP. MATTHEWS** as vice chairmen will conduct the meetings in the chairman's absence. Members are to see the vice chairmen for absentee votes and are to let the chairman know one day in advance of their absence.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:00 A.M.

REP. JOE MCKENNEY, Chairman

Jane Nofsinger, Secretary

JM/

EXHIBIT (buh02aad)